



Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Required Report - public distribution

Date: 7/31/2000

GAIN Report #IT0709

Italy

Food & Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards

Country Report

2000

Prepared by:

Robert H. Curtis

Agriculture Trade Office - Milan

Drafted by:

ATOMILAN and AGROME STAFF

Report Highlights: This report contains a summary of the most recent rules and regulations on marketing foodstuffs in Italy. Policies, rules and regulations are flexible and are subject to change. Some information may be inaccurate because policies have changed or information was unavailable at report preparation time.

Exporters must work closely with Italian importers to avoid unexpected delays and additional expenses in customs clearance, labeling and distribution within Italy as import approval is subject Custom's Officials interpretation of product rules and regulations at the time of entry.

Additional reports on labeling, food additives, and other regulations can be accessed at: www.usdaitaly.org or at www.fas.usda.gov.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Scheduled Report
Milan ATO [IT1], IT

ITALY: Food and Agriculture Import Regulations and Standards

A. Food Laws	2
B. Labeling requirements	3
B.1. Nutritional Labeling	5
C. Food Additive Regulations	5
D. Pesticides and other contaminants	6
E. Other Regulations and Requirements	7
F. Other Specific Standards	7
G. Copyright or Trademark	10
H. Import Protection	10
I. Marketing Food and Food Products in Italy	11
Annex A - Major Regulatory Agencies	24
Annex B - Definitions	26
Annex C - Referenced Laws, Decrees, Etc.	27

Please see www.usdaitaly.org for more detailed information on many of these sections.

Please note that terms referring to the EC (European Economic Community) have evolved into the EU (European Union). Many of the laws and decrees mentioned in the text are still listed with the EC terms reflecting the name of the entity when these laws were enacted.

Italian foodstuff rules and regulations fall within two main groups: those affecting the product and those affecting its presentation. Product rules and regulations include those governing sanitary, phytosanitary, ingredient, and product conformity. Presentation rules and regulations include labeling, packaging, and package conformity.

In general, all food and agricultural products imported into Italy are subject to European Union (EU) regulations. Packaging must be in accordance with EU sizes and be based on the metric system.

Two major points for U.S. exporters:

- U.S. food and beverage products require no special permits nor are they subject to special rules or regulations regarding their retail sale in Italy. The products must comply with rules and regulations as would any other product sold in the EU market.
- If a U.S. food product conforms to any single EU member country's rules and regulations it can then be transhipped and sold in all other EU countries.

Italy's labeling and ingredient legislation is based on EU rules and regulations. Nevertheless, Italy maintains specific labeling and ingredient rules for some food products. U.S. food products can generally be uniformly packaged for sale in all EU member states based on the condition that they conform to the national law set forth in at least one member state. Italy also requires that labels be in the Italian language. Many international companies provide multi-language labels to ensure the possibility of sale throughout the European Union.

A. Food Laws

The Italian food sector follows European Union rules and regulations with the exception of being those products for which there are no EU rules and regulations. Apart from these exceptions any product manufactured in any EU-member country in accordance with that country's rules and regulations can freely circulate in all other EU countries, even if different standards apply in the other country. The same is true of an imported product, if it enters one EU country it can be transhipped to Italy without further inspection as long as its label is in Italian. (Please see the

Labeling portion of this report for more information.) This is of key importance for imported products. Imported products must be in conformity with health safeguards and trade regulations established for food products present on the Italian market, but U.S. exporters can manufacture a product and design labels valid for all European markets. Food labels must only be translated in the language of the country where the product will be sold. Multi-language labels are acceptable. Two other exceptions to EU rules and regulations pertain to specific additive restrictions and limitations (including coloring and modified starches) ; and products that could be dangerous for public health (i.e. unbalanced dietary products) aren't permitted for sale. In these three cases it is necessary to comply with Italy's regulations.

Health certificates are required for certain specified products such as canned and/or frozen fish products, meat and meat based products, milk, pasteurized cream, mollusks and wines (certificate of analysis).

Import permits are required only for certain products as set forth by EC/EU regulations such as mineral water, meat based products, canned mushrooms, mollusks, and frozen foods. Request for import permits must be filed with the Ministry of Foreign Trade. (See Appendix A)

B. Labeling requirements

There are two laws that regulate food product labeling: both laws implement EU directives: one decree concerns the compulsory specifications (Legal Decree 109/92) and the other concerns nutritional labeling specifications.

The standard U.S. label fails to comply with Italian rules and regulations. A sticker with the translation of the U.S. label and with all the mandatory information listed below should be placed on the packaging above or in addition to the U.S. label when the product is sold in Italy.

Legal Decree 109/92 provides guidance on the detailed information that must be displayed on labels, the presentation requirements and allowed exceptions. It also specifies that all the information required to appear on the label or on the package must be in Italian. For imported products, if the label is in a foreign language, the label must also be translated into the Italian language.

The following information is required information for foodstuffs labeling:

- a. The name of the food (the name established by the law or, if this is lacking, a brief description of the product).
- b. list of ingredients in descending order by weight (all components including additives) – unless otherwise stated;
- c. the nominal net content or weight: (weight in grams, liters, kilograms, centiliters, etc.)
- d. expiration date. The minimum durability or “use by” date (for long lasting products) and the expiration date for perishable products except for few products stated in the decree.
- e. alcoholic content. This is required for drinks with alcoholic content equal or greater than 1.2 percent in volume.
- f. name and address of manufacturer or packer
- g. name and address of importer
- h. country of origin .
- i. batch number
- j. instructions for use, if deemed necessary
- k. storage instructions if deemed necessary;

The information required under points a, c, d and e must be in listed in the same visual field of the label in order to assist consumers.

Less stringent requirements exist for the following products:

- bulk products should carry the name and list of ingredients on a separate tag;
- products in special crating destined for the catering sector or for large modern distribution can also list required labeling information on accompanying documents (indicating the name of the product expiration date and the name of the product, expiration date and the name of the responsible person, i.e., importer, distributor)
- products destined for the processing industry may carry only the name of the product, the quantity, the lot number and the designated responsible person (i.e., importer, distributor)

Advertising and misleading claims on labels are also regulated. The laws stipulate the limits of claim that can be made by advertising messages, and provide parameters regarding the common or usual brand name.

Generally, U.S. labeling protocols do not conflict with Italian requirements in terms of misleading advertising.

B. 1 Nutritional labeling

Nutritional labeling is still optional in Italy unless there is a special mention of the nutritional content or benefits on the label itself or in advertisements for product. The presence of a U.S. nutritional label (Nutrition Facts) may be considered to be equivalent to a nutritional claim and consequently its presence on the label requires to draw up the nutritional table according to Italian and European standards as well. To avoid this problem, many U.S. products place their Italian label over the portion of the U.S. label containing nutritional information.

There are no specific Italian or European standards regarding nutritional claims. Nutritional claims are usually allowed then they are based on nutritional ingredients indicated in the law pertaining to nutritional labels but their compliance is left up to the producer who may make claims only that do not mislead consumers.

The only exceptions concern the “no additional sugar added” claim (that is used only in the case of absence of mono- or poly-saccharide and/or other sweetening substances which are different from sweeteners) and the “Low calorie content” claim (products with a calories reduction of at least 30% compared to similar products). Use of these claims is consequently allowed at the specified terms. A nutritional table is required in this case. (Note: we are still researching the required contents of the nutritional label.)

Health claims that expressly or implicitly affirm or suggest that a food product has a healing (curative) or preventive effect are prohibitive. Only rather bland references that the product has general beneficial effects are allowed as long as these are not misleading to consumers.

C. Food additive regulations

Italian food additive regulations have recently changed. The Italian food additive sector is governed by the EU directives adopted by Ministry of Health Ministerial Decree n. 209 dated February 27, 1996. This directive covers all food additives including coloring, additives and sweeteners. There are positive lists for additives, colorings and sweeteners that can freely be used in all food products, except for certain product categories and there are also some specific lists of preservatives, antioxidant and other additives which have a limited use in certain food products.

Additives should be listed on labels by indicating first the specific function they perform (preservative, color, sweetener, emulsifier, etc.) and then specifying the name of the additive (i.e. sorbic acid) or the EEC classification number (i.e E 200).

Use of sweeteners must also be mentioned with the name of the product, i.e., “with sweetener(s)” and warnings must also be made such as “Excessive consumption may have laxative effects for products with a polyol content in excess of 10%”; or “contains a phenylalanine source” for products with aspartame.

The use of inert gas to extend shelf life of products is not considered an additive therefore, there is no obligation to indicate the addition of gases. The label must, however, show the message: “Packaged under protective atmosphere”.

As a general rule the additives accepted by the Codex Alimentarius match the additives allowed in the European and Italian regulation.

D. Pesticides and other contaminants

2. The type and maximum quantities of pesticides residues that may be legally present in food products are regulated in art. 5 of the 283/62 decree (general hygiene regulations). All pesticides listed on the positive list are allowed. These decrees are issued and updated by the Italian Ministry of Health. However, the maximum quantities are set EU-wide and as a general rule match those set in the Codex Alimentarius. There are, however, few exceptions, which follow:

Specific decrees set forth a list of extraction solvents allowed in the production of foodstuffs and food ingredients, along with their prescribed usage and maximum residue tolerances (Legal Decree February 4, 1993 no. 64 and Ministerial Decree 557/94). This Decree has been modified to comply with EU rules.

The European Union has also sets the maximum quantities of nitrates permitted in vegetables, aflatoxin in dry fruit, grains, nuts, and milk. A special authorization must be granted by the Ministry of Health in order to use pesticides.

E. Other regulations and requirements

Processing plants producing meat and meat products, dairy, fish and egg base products must register and comply with the good manufacturing practices in processing, packing and storing human food. Legal Decree 155/97 requires that all manufacturing plants adopt the HACCP method. Consequently all foreign processing plants needs to have a certification system and methods equivalent to the EU regulations.

Meat, milk, fish and egg-base products must be accompanied by specific veterinarian and test certificates.

Food samples can benefit from tax exemptions but must undergo all hygiene or labeling requirements. Health certificates accompanying food products are issued by the health or veterinary authorities of the exporting country.

F. Other specific standards

Trading prepackaged foodstuffs could be in the future subject to payment of an “environmental” tax destined to finance the collection and recycling system of the packaging. The Legal Decree dated Feb. 5, 1997, no. 22, which governs this tax has not yet been enacted consequently is not yet effective.

Companies will have to be part of a Consortium (CONAI) which will be responsible for the collection and recycling of packaging and the tax will consist of the payment of about 150 Lire per kilogram of packaging material.

There are some EU and Italian regulations regarding 1) the physical characteristics of packaging to be used in order to minimize possible contamination. 2) packaging specification for liquid containers and 3) special environmental messages not to disperse liquid containers.

The European standardization process is taking place for several food products. This process established the requirement (Presidential decree no. 871/82) that certain types of food products (salt, sugar, pasta, sauces, etc.) must comply to a certain size/weight etc. (e.g. butter can only be traded in 125, 250, 500, 1500, 2000, 2500 and 5,000 gram packages. Products that are included

in the above mentioned decree are authorized to put on the label the sign “e”, (3 mm tall) near the nominal quantity and this means that the product comply with EU regulations.

If food products are listed in another decree (DPR 391/80) they still have to conform to the size range but they cannot use the “e” sign. If products are not listed in either of the two decrees, these products are free of all size restraints and can carry the EC symbol.

The above-indicated provisions also apply to U.S. products and it is mandatory to inform the Central Metric Office (see the address in Appendix A), one month prior to start of import, regarding the type of code used to indicate the production lot.

The nominal content of a product container (bottle, box, package, etc.) is subject to the packaging regulations established by the Italian or European laws and must be filed with the Ufficio Metrico, along with the verification tests performed by the producer/packers at least one month before the trading of the product.

Vitamin-enrichment food products are allowed if classified as “dietetic” food products. For example, vitamin enriched flour enters Italy as a dietetic flour mixture.

GMO products. Labels for GMO products should indicate the presence of genetically modified products. There are no special labeling requirements. GMO products are presently being under review and discussion by the EU State Members (EA. 258/97). A labeling directive announced in 1998 is likely to be revised as its current wording is ambiguous leaving member states quite a bit of latitude.

Special dietary products, means food products designed for meeting or supplying a particular dietary need related to physical, physiological, pathological or other conditions, including but not limited to the conditions of disease, (allergic, hypersensitivity to food, and over weight etc). or by reason of age (infancy and childhood) or for supplementing or fortifying the ordinary diet) are subject to EC regulations (Legal Decree 111/92). Products which have a great nutritional effect require prior authorization from the Ministry of Health prior to being sold within the country. Other products can be sold once a copy of the label has been sent to the Ministry of Health. The Health Ministry then has 90 days to request further technical or supporting information or notify the trader of the withdrawal of the product for which notification is requested.

New EU Directives related to dietetic products are being finalized and once published these provisions will take precedence over Italian rules and regulations.

Italy does not have specific regulations regarding sanitation materials and sites that are in contact with foodstuffs.

Fish products are subject to specific EU health requirements.

Animal quarantine is required for animal coming from Countries where there is a recognized presence of a particular disease or a recognized health and hygiene problem.

EU regulations are governing beverage such as wine, beer and other alcoholic beverages. They determine both production methods and labeling requirements. Great importance is given to safeguarding the origin brands (DOC).

The basic regulation covering the production, labeling and importation of organic foods in the European Union is Council regulation No. 2092/91 and 1935/95. In order to be able to use the word “organic” on the label, the product must have been certified by an authorized agency. The agency certifying the product must have their name on the label. According to Article 11 of EEC 2092/91, organic food may be imported from third countries which administer legislation equivalent to the rules established within the EU. The U.S. organic food production and certification system has not yet been judged equivalent to the Italian certification system. Thus, imported U.S. organic products need to be certified by a U.S. certifying entity and the Italian importer needs to request a special import permit.

Products with more than 95% organic ingredients are considered to be fully organic. Products with more than 70% of organic ingredients may only mention this in the list of ingredients. Other products must avoid the term “organic”.

Health products are subject to the same regulations that apply to other food products.

G. Copyright or trademark laws

Copyrights and trademarks are subject to Italian Royal Decree No 929 dated June 21, 1942 no. 929 as modified by Presidential Decree May 8, 1948 no. 795 and Legal Decree December 4, 1992 no. 480. Italy conformed to EU standards which calls for the possibility of registration of patents and trademarks with protection throughout the entire European Union (the so-called “Community Brand”).

The authority with jurisdiction over copyright and/or trade mark registration is the Italian Trademark and Patent Office in Rome.

The trademark, in order to be registered, must be new (not previously used), with distinctive quality (not generic) and something not already in common usage. For example, “bread sticks” would not qualify for a trade mark, but “Roberto’s Bread sticks” probably would qualify for a trademark.

H. Import procedure

Food products must conform to the regulations required by the Italian and/or EU laws. Products are examined when they enter Italy by inspecting import documents. Health authorities may perform tests and relative analysis of samples. Import operations can be completed and the product may enter commerce within 48 hours from the time of arrival at port if no specific problems arise from the import document inspection or sample testing.

It is important to work with experienced importers, i.e. have agent work with Italian regulatory authorities to ensure acceptability of specific product. It is also advisable for the agent to contact health authorities at port of entry as interpretation of health directives may vary from port to port.

Marketing In Italy

IMPORT DUTIES

Italy applies to the EU tariffs (customs duties), which are based on the international Harmonized System (HS) of product classification. Duty rates on manufactured goods from the United States generally range from 5 to 8 percent and are normally levied on the c.i.f. value of the goods at the port of entry. The c.i.f. value is the price of the goods (usually the sales price) plus packing costs, insurance and freight charges to the port of entry. Most raw materials enter duty free or at low rates while agricultural products face higher rates and special levies. For information on EU duty rates levied on agricultural products, see FAS Brussels homepage via www.usdaitaly.org.

On entry, some stamp or administrative taxes may be levied on U.S. products. Italian customs officers may assess certain charges (*diritti doganali*) at the port of entry. The rate of the *diritti doganali* may vary substantially depending on their judgement and the specific port of entry.

QUOTATIONS AND PAYMENT TERMS

U.S. sales quotations are usually given a c.i.f. basis which is the sales price plus costs (such as packing), insurance charges, and air or ocean freight to the point of importation. The c.i.f. quote is generally preferred by Italian importers since they are usually familiar with the Italian customs charges and value-added taxes levied on the product at the time of importation, but may not be acquainted with U.S. costs for trucking, ocean, or air freight. Quotations and invoicing are usually in U.S. dollar terms.

American quotations, usually stated in dollars and on a c.i.f. or f.o.b. basis, are completely acceptable to Italian buyers. Generally, the practice of American firms selling to a new customer is to require cash against documents on the first sale or two. After establishing a credit, the importer will expect to pay by 30-, 60- or 90-day letter of credit. In all cases, the American exporter will have to decide how to balance between making the sale with liberal financing terms vs. more secure payment terms but with less sales potential. American firms may initially find it necessary to offer their most competitive price and payment terms in order to gain the sale in the competitive international market. After, prices may be adjusted as sales and volume permit.

The Italian buyer may request a quote or shipment of goods under INCOTERMS. This is a set of international rules defining the important commercial terms and practices. By referencing INCOTERMS in contracts or invoices, both buyer and seller will have an equal understanding of their responsibilities in an agreement. Copies of the 90-page publication *Guide to INCOTERMS* are available through ICC Publishing, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010, (212) 206-1150. Exporters can also obtain information from the Dun & Bradstreet *Exporters' Encyclopedia*.

CUSTOMS CLEARANCE

For the purpose of making an inventory, merchandise may be examined by the Italian importer prior to customs clearance. No goods can clear customs without shipping documents and payment of any required customs duty, applicable value added taxes and any excise taxes. These procedures must be completed by the importer at the time of clearing customs. Import licenses, if required, should be presented by the importer within the period for which they were issued.

TEMPORARY IMPORTS

Samples with and without commercial value are admitted free of duty and taxes. However, samples with are admitted with following provisions:

- a) The samples are accompanied by a representative of the U.S. firm with a statement, notarized by an Italian Consulate, identifying the commercial traveler and attesting to the intention that the samples are being imported into Italy for the purpose of being shown or demonstrated and they are to be reexported in due course.
- b) A certificate of origin from a recognized chamber of commerce is submitted to identify the source of the goods.
- c) A deposit or bond, in the amount of the applicable customs duties and taxes, is made at the point of entry. This will be refunded when the goods are reexported.
- d) A list (in duplicate) with a full description of each sample, including weight and value, is submitted. It is helpful to have such a list in Italian as well.

U.S. traders should be aware of another and more simplified procedure in the form of a carnet for the temporary importation of samples without posting guarantees. See the "CARNETS" section of page 4.

In practice, samples valued in excess of lira 1 million (or about \$1,250) are virtually impossible to clear through Italian customs. In such cases, it is advisable to engage the services of a local freight forwarder.

GOODS IN TRANSIT

Goods can clear customs with an EU transit procedure that provides for the issuance of a single transit document under which the goods may be easily shipped across borders of the EU member states. These transit documents are completed for the importer by a freight forwarder in Italy. The EU transit document provides the basis for a single, comprehensive procedure covering the goods within the community. Since the single transit document is an EU form, the European importer, customs house broker, freight forwarder, or shipper must prepare the document at the point of entry.

FREE TRADE ZONES

Trieste and Venice are the two free zones in Italy. Goods of foreign origin may be brought into the free trade zones without the payment of customs duties and taxes. The goods remain free of all such charges while held in the zones or if subsequently transshipped or reexported. The goods may be freely sold, manipulated, and processed.

Italy also has numerous general warehouses that are located throughout Italy in all the port areas and cities. There are no limitations as to the type or origin of merchandise that can be stored in free trade zones or bonded or customs warehouses. The time limit for such storage is 5 years. Merchandise deteriorated while in storage can be destroyed without payment of duty.

The advantage of a free trade zone or bonded warehouse to American firms is having a European base of supply to assure customers prompt delivery and service. Also being able to maintain inventory at low cost with a minimum of customs paperwork is also a distinct advantage.

INWARD AND OUTWARD PROCESSING

Inward processing is the temporary importation of raw material or products for additional manufacture or processing. Merchandise imported for additional processing and eventual reexport out of the EU is eligible for custom-free treatment.

The reexported goods may be partly or totally processed. The import duty and taxes are levied only on those goods that are not reexported and are finally sold in the EU.

To qualify for inward processing, an Italian (or EU) firm must satisfy customs that is necessary to use imported goods instead of EU goods; state an intention to export products manufactured from the imported goods (or equivalent goods available in the EU); and assure that, upon reexportation, the conditions set forth in the authorization are satisfied, the exported products are accounted for, and the entered goods are identifiable and related to specific importations.

In outward processing, a firm in Italy may export goods for further manufacture or processing from the EU customs area and then reimport the final product. Duties and taxes are levied only on the increased value added by the expatriate manufacturing or processing when the goods are returned to Italy and not to the total value of the product. Only firms located in Italy or another EU country are eligible to take advantage of this option, and they should first gain approval of the Customs authorities.

SAMPLES AND ADVERTISING MATERIALS

Italy participates in the International Convention to Facilitate the Importation of Commercial Samples and Advertising Materials. Samples of negligible value imported to promote sales are accorded duty-free and tax-free treatment. Prior authorization is not required, however, restrictions do exist for live plants and animals and some food products. To ascertain whether the samples are of negligible value, their value is compared with a commercial shipment of the same product. Granting of duty-free status may require that the samples be rendered useless for future sale by marking, perforating, cutting, or other means. Imported samples of commercial value may be given a temporary entry and exemption from custom charges. However, a bond or cash deposit may be required as security that the goods will be removed from the country. This security is the duty and tax normally levied plus 10 percent. Samples may remain in the country

for up to one year. They are not allowed to be sold, put to their normal use (except for demonstration purposes), or utilized in any manner for payment. Goods imported as samples may be imported only in quantities constituting a sample according to normal commercial usage.

CARNETS

As a result of several customs agreements, simplified procedures are available to U.S. business and professional people for the temporary importation of commercial samples and professional equipment. A carnet is a customs document that expedites customs clearance for temporary imports of samples or equipment. With the carnet, goods can be imported without the payment of duty, tax, or additional security. It also typically saves time since formalities are all arranged before leaving the United States. A carnet is usually valid for one year from the date of issuance and is issued at moderate cost. A bond or cash deposit of 40 percent of the value of the goods covered by the carnet is also required. This will be waived in the event the products are not reexported and duties and taxes are not paid.

Carnets are sold in U.S. by the U.S. Council for International Business at the following locations: 1212 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036, (212) 354-4480; 3345 Willshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90010, (213) 386-0767; and 1930 Thoreau Drive, #101, Schaumburg, IL 60173

ADVANCE RULINGS FROM ITALIAN CUSTOMS

Prior to signing a long-term contract or sending a shipment of considerable value, it may be prudent for a U.S. exporter or the Italian importer to first obtain an official ruling on the customs classification, duty rate, and taxes that will be applied on the shipment. Such requests should be sent to Dipartimento della Dogana, Via vie delle Provincie 103, 00162 Rome. The request should describe the product, the material it is made from, and other details needed by customs authorities to classify the product correctly. While customs will not provide a binding decision, the advance ruling usually will be accepted if the imported goods are found to correspond exactly to the full description provided when requesting the ruling.

VAT (VALUED ADDED TAX)

The VAT is charged on the sale of goods and services within the country. In Italian this is called *l'imposta sul valore aggiunto (IVA)*. Unlike the customs duty, which is the same for all EU member countries, the VAT rates are installed by the tax authorities of each country and varies from country to country. At each stage of the manufacturing and distribution chain, the seller adds the appropriate amount of VAT (tax on the amount of value that the seller added to the product, plus the amount of VAT passed on to the seller by the supplier) to the sales price. The tax is always quoted separately on the invoice. In submitting the revenue to the government, each firm periodically subtracts the VAT it paid when making purchases of goods and services from the amount of VAT collected on sales. The balance is remitted to the government. This process repeats itself at each stage until the product is sold to the final consumer who bears the full burden of the tax. The box at the right contains a summary of the VAT rates in Italy.

For imports into Italy, the VAT is levied at the same rate as for domestic products or transactions. The base on which the VAT is charged on imports is the c.i.f. value of the goods at the point of entry, plus any duty, excise, taxes, levies, or other charges (excluding the VAT) collected by customs at the time of importation. This total represents the transaction value of the import when it clears customs. The Italian importer is liable for customs duties, VAT, and any other charges at the time of clearing customs. Exports from Italy are exempt from VAT since they are not consumed in the country and will be subject to taxes imposed in the country of destination,. Temporary imports that are reexported are not subject to the VAT. The importer may have to post a temporary bond for the amount of customs duty and taxes as security until the goods are taken out of the country.

The EU is seeking to harmonize the range of VAT rates among the EU member nations. The EU Council has adopted guidelines for converging the VAT rates over an extended transitional period such as seeking to establish a minimum. VAT rate for most products, lifting border tax controls, and defining which products will be allowed an exempted or zero VAT rate. Each country will still retain the collection and enforcement authority that currently exists.

Exempt Rate: Products exported from Italy are exempted from the value-added tax.

Preferential Rate: 4 percent rate applies mainly to such necessities of life as basic foods, medicines, and transportation. Examples of such goods include: fish, (fresh or f.) fresh milk and milk products, fruit, vegetables, wheat, corn, rice vegetable oil, margarine, fertilizers, finished goods used in urbanization projects (such as water treatment, transportation, electrical generation, and construction), medical instruments (orthopedic, dental, and optical), newspapers, magazines, and periodicals.

Reduced Rate: 9 percent rate applies to foods that are more processed such as coffee, cocoa, spices, malt, yogurt and fermented milk products, hydrogenated vegetable oil, processed cereal products, frozen fruit, soups, condiments, mineral water, beer, wine, wine vinegar, wood, gas and electricity for domestic and industrial use, scientific instruments, primary and semi-finished construction materials (cement, prefabricated materials, floor coverings), restaurant service and hotel accommodations, and private telephone service.

Standard Rate: 19 percent rate is the general or standard rate and applies to the majority of goods and services. Examples include such goods as beef and port (fresh or frozen), fruit juice, liquor, natural gas and petroleum products, chemicals and plastics, metals, machinery and machine parts, office machines, furniture.

Luxury Rate: 38 percent rate is applied on luxury items such as perfumes, jewelry, cameras, stereos, furs, sparkling wines, automobiles with engines larger than 2,00 cubic centimeters, and motorcycles with engines over 350 cubic centimeters.

The VAT is applied on the c.i.f. value plus the duty charged on the product. Important exempted services and items include the transfer of shares and back bonds, transfer of businesses and of land, commissions paid on goods exported, the forwarding of goods abroad, property rental, banking and financial transactions, as well as insurance. The VAT is applied on domestically produced goods as well as imports. The difference is either paid to the government, or, in the case of a balance in favor of the seller, the amount can be carried forward and offset against future amounts payable. The ultimate consumer bears the full burden of the tax. Any person, Italian or foreigner, that is engaged in a commercial or financial transaction that produces an income in Italy or invests in real estate, stock market, or other such venture, must obtain a fiscal code (codice fiscale) registration number for tax purposes.

EXCISE TAXES

Excise taxes (*l'imposta sui consumi*) are levied on a small number of products such as soft drinks, wine, beer, spirits, tobacco, sugar, and petroleum products. For imports, the excise tax is paid by the imported and is in addition to any customs duty or VAT. The EU plans to harmonize excise taxes and create the single internal market.

REQUIRED SHIPPING DOCUMENTS

Documents required for exporting include the usual shipper's commercial invoice and the bill of lading or air waybill, none of which require consular legalization. For textiles and apparel, it is good practice to provide a certificate of origin, available through most state chambers of commerce. For other products, however, if substantive proof of U.S. origin is provided through other accompanying documents as well as through characteristic trademarks, a certificate of origin is not normally necessary.

Shipments to Italy require one copy each of the bill of lading (or air waybill) and the commercial invoice for customs clearance. There are no consular requirements, but certificates of origin may be required as set out below.

U.S.. Customs also requires two copies of the *U.S. Shipper's Export Declaration* (U.S. Dept. of Commerce Form 7525V) for goods valued at \$1,500 or more. A declaration form must be completed for all shipments by regular mail or parcel post valued at \$500 or more. The form must include the harmonized commodity number of the exported product as well as the weight stated in metric units. When sending goods through the mail, the exporter should inquire at the post office as to the proper documentation needed for mail shipments. For additional information or assistance on export documentation, readers should consult publications such as the *Exporters' Encyclopedia*, published by Dun's marketing Services or contact a local U.S. Dept. of Commerce International Trade Administration district office.

Although no special format is prescribed for the commercial invoice, it is advisable to include the following: date and place of shipment; name (firm's name) and address of the seller and buyer; method of shipment; number, markings of the packages, and their numerical order; description of the goods using the usual commercial description according to kind, quality, grade, and the

weight (gross and net, in metric units), along with any factors increasing or decreasing the value; agreed price of goods; unit cost; total cost f.o.b. factory plus shipping; insurance charges; delivery and payment terms; and the signature of a responsible official of the shipper's firm. Bills of lading should bear the name of the party to be notified. The consignee needs the original bill of lading to take possession of the goods.

Certificates of origin are required for a small number of goods such as textile products. The need for a certificate of origin should be ascertained directly from the importer or from the appropriate customs authority. Letter of credit terms may stipulate that a certificate of origin be provided. Customs authorities accept certificates of origin issued by authorized local U.S. chambers of commerce or boards of trade.

MARKETING AND LABELING

There is no general requirement that imports be marked as to the country of origin. Under Italian legislation, the origin of imported merchandise is established through documentation accompanying the shipments arriving in Italy and not through marking of products or their containers. Certain specified commodities, however, must be marked or labeled to show composition, and name and location of manufacturer, in accordance with various laws and regulations.

The following articles are subject to special marking or labeling regulations: packaged foods; distilled spirits; beer; wine; vinegar; and feedstuffs.

Imports of certain commodities, including numerous foodstuffs, are subject to special regulations regarding the manner in which they must be labeled to show manufacturer, composition, content (in metric units), and country of origin. In view of the complexity of these regulations and changing requirements, information should be requested from the importer prior to shipment. Please see Italy: Food & Agriculture Import Requirements at www.usdaitaly.org for more specific information.

IMPORT LICENSING

With the exception of a small group of largely agricultural items, practically all goods originating in the U.S. and most other free-world countries can be imported without import licenses and free of quantitative restrictions. There are, however, monitoring measures applied to imports of certain sensitive products. The most important of these measures is the automatic import license for textiles. This license is granted to Italian importers when they provide the requisite forms. Licenses are not transferable. They may be used to cover several shipments within the total quantity authorized. In general, the goods involved are indicated on the license by the Harmonized System classification number and the corresponding wording of the tariff position.

TECHNICAL STANDARDS

The metric system is the key measurement system in international trade, with the U.S. being the only major nation where this system is not in full use. The 1988 Trade Act states that the metric system is the preferred system for weights and measures. American firms can be at a serious disadvantage in world markets since overseas buyers are reluctant to accept nonstandard (nonmetric) products since replacement parts and tools are less available and serious safety risks could result by mixing metric and nonmetric parts.

Italy applies the product standards and certification approval process developed by the European Union. Italy is required by the Treaty of Rome to incorporate approved EU directives into its national laws. There is frequently a long lag by the various EU members on obtaining national implementation.

With the development of a single harmonized EU product standard, U.S. exporters may find that it is usually much easier to comply with one EU-wide standard rather than having to meet several individual national standards when exporting to Europe.

There are numerous mandatory and voluntary standards in existence that define products, processes, or procedures and embrace many fields. The texts of these standards may be obtained directly from UNI, Ente Nazionale Italiano di Unificazione, Piazza Diaz 2, 20123 Milan (Italian National Bureau of Standards) or through the American National Standards Institute, 1430 Broadway, New York, NY 10018, (212) 354-3300.

EUROPEAN UNION CERTIFICATION

As part of the unification program to establish common standards for all EU member countries, key product areas will be regulated by the EU. Mandatory requirements to protect the health and safety of consumers, as well as the environment are constantly being developed and implemented. To indicate conformance to the mandatory EU requirements, a CE mark must be placed on all regulated products by the manufacturer or a representative before they can be sold on the EU market. The applicable product testing and certification requirements for individual product categories are specified in the various EU directives. The CE mark relates only to the mandatory health, safety, and environmental requirements established by the EU; it does not indicate conformity to European product standards. Thus, national marks of conformity with product standards remain compatible with the CE mark and both may be applied to the product. It should be noted, however, that the CE mark does replace all national safety marks for the regulated products.

The EU Commission has released *The Global Approach to Certification and Testing*, a document that recommended harmonized testing and certification procedures within the Community. These proposals included establishing a "modular" system for demonstrating product compliance. Under this system, methods of demonstrating product conformity range from having the manufacturer self-certify the product to having a private testing company type-approve the product and provide market surveillance, depending on the probability and type of product risk. As standards and certification requirements are important in international trade, it is expected that more U.S. testing laboratories will be able to certify that products comply with EU requirements.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Italy uses the metric system of weights and measures, which is called the International System of Units (SI). The EU has established standardized packaging units for numerous products, which should be consulted by U.S. exporters. Labeling must be in metric units for all imported products to be sold in Italy. products are allowed to be imported and then labeled in SI metric units prior to sale. Dual labeling information is permitted, but the nonmetric information must not predominate. The U.S. exporter would be well advised to first check with the Italian importer to ensure that the package size and labeling complies with all requirements prior to

shipment.

Metric measurements should be used in every quotation where size or weight is involved. The Italian buyer will expect products and literature to be labeled in metric units. Detailed information on the EU's metric and packaging requirements may be obtained from: Office of European Community Affairs, Room 3036, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20230, (202) 482-2905.

U.S. EXPORT CONTROLS

For the purpose of national security, foreign policy, or the short supply of materials, the United States controls the export of goods and technology by two broad categories of export licenses--general and validated.

The vast majority of U.S. exports are shipped abroad under general licenses that do not require formal application or approval; This is true for almost all food and food products.

TRADEMARKS

The principal trademark registration laws are Royal Decree No. 929 of June 21, 1942, and Presidential Decree No 795 of May 8, 1948. Some types of terms are not registrable as trademarks, such as those deemed to be generic, those containing false indications of quality or origin of goods, and those similar terms already registered by others in Italy or for which applications are pending. For some goods, geographic names may not be used in trademarks nor can the portraits of persons be registered without their consent.

Trademark applications are examined for acceptability of their format and consistency with the laws. If an application is in order, the mark will be registered. There is no opportunity for opposition and the first applicant is entitled to registration. However, any other person who claims to be the first user of the mark in Italy can have the prior registration cancelled, provided one can prove the claim. No claim of prior use can be made after the registered mark is 5 years old.

Trademarks are registered for 20 years from the effective application filing date and are

renewable for similar periods. Failure to use a mark within 3 years after its registration can result in

cancellation. Trademarks may be assigned to other users provided such action does not involve deceptive trade practices.

For administrative purposes, trademark products are classified under 42 groups (1-34 for products and 35-42 for services). Applications must indicate the appropriate classification.

End of Marketing Section

Appendix A - Major Regulatory Agencies

Ministero del Commercio con l'Estero

(Ministry of Foreign Trade)

Direzione Generale delle Importazioni e delle Esportazioni

Viale America 341

00144 Roma

Tel 39 06 59931 FAX 39 06 59932153

-D.ssa Brunetti (Fruits and Vegetables)

-D.ssa A.Santoro (Feed grains)

-D.ssa Morelli (Meats, Dairy products)

-Dr. Tampone (Fats and Oil)

Ministero Sanita

(Ministry of Health)

Direzione Generale per l'Igiene Alimenti e la Nutrizione

Divisione VI – A

Piazza Marconi, Palazzo Italia

00144 Roma

Tel 39-06 5994 Fax 39-065994 3676

(See next page for additional information)

Ufficio Centrale Metrico

Ministry of Industry

Commercio e dell'Artigianato

Direzione Generale per l'armonizzazione e

la Tutela del Mercato

Via Antonio Bosio 15

00161 Roma

Tel 39 -06-8416825 FAX 39-06-8414194

UNI

**Ente Nazionale Italian di Unificazione
(Italian Standards Agency)**

Food and Beverage Committee
Via Battistotti Sassi 11-b
20133 Milan
Tel 39 02 700241 FAX 39-02-70106106

National Import Authorities in Ministry of Health:

Ministry of Health
Piazzale Marconi 25
00144 Eur-Rome
Tel 3906-5994-3946 FAS 3906-5994-3190

for Inspection, Certification, Quarantine, etc.:

Dr. Romano Marabelli

for Thermal Processed Products:

Massimo Pizzoli (animal products)
Italo Zaffino (vegetable products)

Food Labeling and Standards:

Giuseppe Porcelli

For Fishery Products:

Andrea Dionisi

Source of Documents and Publications:

Il Sole 24 Ore Pirola S.P.A.

Via Lomazzo 52
20514 Milano
tel 3902-3022-323

Annex B: Definitions**Legal Authority****Implications**

* Legge or L.	These are the principal rules found
* Decreto del Presidente della Repubblica or D.P.R.	in Italian regulations. They are of equal weight or legal value. In English they are referred to as laws or decrees of the President or
* Decreto Legislativo or D.Lvo	the Parliament.
Decreto Ministeriale or D.M., also Ordinanza or O.	Enforcement rules which apply to the above principal rules. Of secondary weight after legge, and decreto, etc. In English called Ministerial decrees or ordinances.
Regolamento CEE	European Union rule or regulations which has a direct impact on a Member State such as Italy. Thus an EU regulation has equal legal weight with Italian laws and decrees.
Direttiva CEE	EU directives which do not have an immediate impact on Member State law. Must be inserted into national legislation, generally as a Decreto Legislativo (see above).
Regio Decreto Regio Decreto Legge	Old rules on food and regulations, some of which still in force. Those which remain valid have the same weight as a legge (see above).

Annex C - Referenced Laws, Decrees, Etc.

Labeling and Packaging, Law, Decree Citation

- * Legislative Decree 1/27/92 No. 109
Implementation of EU Directives 89/395 and 89/396
relative to labeling and advertising of food products.
- * Legge 04/10/1991 # 126
Legislation on consumer awareness.
- * Decreto Legislativo 02/16/1993 # 77
Implementation of the EU Directives # 90/496 on nutritional labeling of food products
- * Decreto Legislativo 01/25/1992 # 74
Implementation of the EEC directives 84/450 dealing with misleading advertising and/or
claims on labels.
- * Decreto Legge 07/03/1976 # 451
Implementation of EEC Directives # 75/106
relative to packaging of liquid products in sealed containers and # 75/107 related to bottles
used as containers.
- * Decreto del Presidente della Repubblica 08/23/1982 # 825.
Implementation of EEC Directives # 78/891 and 79/1005
specifying the procedure for determining the liquid contents in sealed containers/bottles.
- * Decreto Ministeriale 08/23/1976
Regulations relative to EU prepackaging and EU measuring containers.
- * Legge 10/25/1978 # 690
Conforming national regulations to the EEC
Directives # 76/211 to packaging of liquid products in sealed containers
- * Decreto Ministeriale 02/27/1979
Directives for EEC pre-packaged containers established by the law # 690, 10/25/78.
- * Decreto del Presidente della Repubblica, 08/23/82 # 871.
Implementation of EEC Directives # 80/232 pertinent to the range on quantities allowed for
certain products in prepacked (sealed) containers.

- * Decreto del Presidente della Repubblica 05/26/1980, # 391,
Consumer product packaging regulations for containers different from the EU approved types.
- * Decreto Ministeriale 06/28/1989
Labeling requirements for packaging and containers for liquids.

Sanitary Regulations

- * Decreto del Presidente della Repubblica 01/14/97 # 54
Dairy sector sanitary regulations .
- * Decreto Legislativo 05/26/97 # 155
Food products sanitation guidelines
- * Legge 04/30/1962 # 283
Sanitation requirements for the production and sale of food and drinks.
- * Decreto del Presidente della Repubblica 03/26/1980, # 327
Implementation of the law # 283/62.
- * Decreto Ministeriale dated 03/21/1973 (and further amendments).
Sanitary regulations concerning packaging materials, containers, objects/equipment/utensils intended to come into contact with food products or with substances used for personal use.

Regulation Dealing with Food Additives and Flavoring

- * Decreto Ministeriale 02/27/96 # 209
Detailed regulation for additives, color additives and sweeteners
(EU Directives 95/2, 94/34, 94/35, and 94/36)
- * Decreto Legislativo 01/25/1992 # 107
Implementation of the EU. Directives # 88/388 and 91/71 on flavorings
for used in food products and to source materials for their production.

European Regulations Relative to Certain Product Categories and to the Promotion and Safeguard of "Quality Products"

- * Regolamento C.E.E. # 2081/92 del Consiglio dated 07/14/1992
Protection of geographical indications/designation origin for agricultural/food products.
- * Regolamento C.E.E. # 2082/92 del Consiglio 07/14/1992
Specific certificates for agricultural and food products.

- * Regolamento C.E.E. 2092/91 del Consiglio
Organic production and indications referring to agricultural and food products.
- * Regolamento C.E.E. # 94/92 della Commissione dated 01/14/1992
Providing detailed rules concerning imports from third countries,
indicated in EC regulation No. 2092/91 on organic production of agricultural
products and indications referring to agricultural products and foodstuffs.

Regulations on Residues and Contaminating Substances

- * Legislative Decree 02/04/1993, # 64
Implementation of EU Directives # . 88/344 pertaining to extraction solvents used in the
production of food products and their ingredients.
- * Decree 07/8/94, # 557
Implementation of EU Directive # 92/115 pertaining to extraction
solvents used in the production of food products and their ingredients.
- * Decree 02/18/1993
Tolerance residues of active substances used for plant protection and storage of food products.

Waste Packaging

- * Decree 02/05/1997 # 22
Implementation of EU Directives 91/156 on waste, 91/689 on dangerous
waste and 94/62 on packaging and packaging waste

Drinking Water for Human consumption: Natural and Mineral Water

- * D.P.R. 05/24/1988 # 236
Implementation of EU Dir.# 80/778 on the quality of drinking water.
- * D.Lvo 01/25/1992 # 105
Implementation of EU Dir.80/777 relative to the use and marketing of natural waters.

Soft Drinks

- * D.P.R. 05/19/1958 # 719
Regulation dealing with sanitation rules for the production and
trade of bottled sparkling water, carbonated beverages and soft drinks.
- * Legge 04/03/1961 # 286
Legislation concerning soft drinks traded with "fancy" names.

Rough Brandy

- * Legge 12/07/1951 # 1559 (and further amendments) -
Laws related to the production and trade of brandy products.

Fish Products

- * Regio Decreto Legge 07/07/1927 # 1548 (and Regulation thereof)
Regulation on the manufacture, import and trade of fish products preserved in containers.
- * D.Lvo 12/30/1992 # 531
Implementation of the CEE Directives # 91/493 laying down sanitary rules governing the production and marketing of fish products.

Live Bivalve Mollusks

- * D.Lvo 12/30/1992 # 530
Implementation of CEE Directives # 91/492 laying down sanitary rules governing the production and marketing of live bivalve mollusks (clams).

Food for Special Dietary Use

- * D.Lvo 01/27/1992 # 111 (and updating thereof) -
Implementation of CEE Directives # 89/398 relative to products for special dietary use.
- * D.lvo 01/19/98 # 131 Implementation of D.lvo 111/92

Canned Vegetables

- * Legge 03/10/1969 # 96
Regulation of quality and quantity control for peeled tomatoes and tomato concentrates for exports; extension of same regulation for same products for the local market.
- * D.P.R. 04/11/1975 # 428
Implementation of the Law 96/1969.

Beer

- * Legge 08/16/1962 # 1354
Sanitary regulations related to the production and trade of beer.

Cocoa and Chocolate

- * Legge 04/30/1976, # 351
New regulations relative to the production and trading of products containing cocoa, sugared cocoa and chocolate products for human consumption.

Coffee and Tea

- * D.P.R. 02/16/1973 # 470
Regulations on sanitary requirements for the production and trade of coffee and by-products.
- * Decreto Ministeriale 05/20/1976
Regulations relating to the production and trade of decaffeinated coffee.
- * Regio decreto 08/03/1890 # 7045 - Art. 158
Regulations of the tea trade.
- * Decreto Ministeriale 12/12/1979 (and further amendments)
Regulations implementing the production and trade of caffeine free tea.
- * D.P.R. 08/23/1982 # 774
Implementation of the CEE Directives # 77/436 related to coffee & chicory extracts.

Fresh and Prepared Meat

- * Legge 04/04/1964 # 171 (and further amendments) -
Amendments to the Regio Decreto Legge 09/26/1930 # 1458,
which deals with the legislation of sale of fresh and frozen meat.
- * Legge 11/29/1971 # 1073
Sanitary Legislation on commerce of fresh meat between Italy and other EU Member States.
- * D.P.R. 09/10/1991 # 312
Regulation implementing the CEE Directives 83/90,85/323, 85/325,
85/586, 88/288 on sanitary issues relative to trade of fresh meat within the EU.
- * D.P.R. 08/10/1972 # 967
Sanitary regulation on the breeding and trade of fowl, rabbits and game.
- * D.P.R. 06/08/1982 # 503
Implementation of the CEE Directives 71/118, 75/431 and 78/50 dealing
with the sanitary issues relative to the trade of fresh poultry meat.

- * D.P.R. 12/30/1992 # 559
Implementation of the Directives # 91/495 relative to the sanitary issues concerning the production and marketing of rabbit meat and bred game.
- * D.Lvo 12/30/1992 # 537
Implementation of the CEE Directives 92/5 relative to the sanitary issues concerning the trade of meat based products within the EU.
- * D/Lvo 02/04/1993 # 49
Implementation of the CEE Directives # 89/227 relative to the importation of meat based products from third countries.

Food Extracts

- * Legge 10/06/1950 # 836
Regulation relative to the production and trade of food extracts and similar products.

Cereals, Flour, Bread, Pasta and Semolina

- * Legge 07/04/1967 # 580 (and further amendments) -
Legislation governing the manufacture and trade of cereals, flours, bread and pasta.
- * D.P.R. 06/23/1993 # 283
Regulation relative to the legal statement of denomination for some bakery products (crackers, canape', rusks).

Cheese

- * Regio Decreto Legge 10/15/1925 # 2033 - Art. 32, 33, 34
Common Cheese
- * Legge 02/19/1992 # 142 - Art. 53
Light and low fat cheese.
- * Legge 04/10/1954 # 125 (and further amendments) -
Protection of geographical and typical names of cheese.
- * D.P.R. 11/18/1953 # 1099
Implementation of the Stresa International Agreement related to the use of geographical names such as the origin production name and their typical names.

- * D.P.R. 05/17/1988 # 180
Implementation of the CEE Directives # 83/417 relative to the harmonization of the Member States regulations referring to certain dairy proteins (casein and caseinate) for human consumption, per article 15 of law 04/16/1987, # 183.

Organic Products

- * CEE Regulation # 2092/91 dated 06/24/1991
Regulation relative to the organic production of agricultural products and how it should be indicated on the relative organic product.
- * D.Lvo 03/17/1995 # 220
Implementation of art. 8 and 9 of the CEE Regulation # 2092/91 relative to the production of agro-food products with the organic method.

Mushrooms

- * Legge 08/23/93 # 325
Regulation relative to fresh and preserved mushrooms
- * D.P.R. 07/14/95 # 376
Implementation of law 352/93

Rice

- * Legge 03/18/1958 # 325
Regulations relative to the domestic trade of rice.

Milk and Milk Products

- * Regio Decreto 05/09/1929 # 994
Requirements dealing with the sanitation control of milk for human consumption.
- * Legge 05/03/1989 # 169
Legislation relative to the treatment and trade of cow's milk.
- * D.P.R. 05/10/1982 # 514
C.E.E. Directives # 76/118 related to certain types of preserved milk partially or totally dehydrated for human consumption.

Margarine and Animal and Vegetable Fats

- * Legge 11/04/1951 # 1316 (and Regulation thereof)
Legislation relative to the production and trade of margarine and food hydrogenated fats.

Jam and Marmalade

- * D.P.R. 06/18/1982 # 401
Implementation of C.E.E. Directives # 79/693 relative to fruit jams (preserves), jellies, marmalades and chestnut cream.
- * Decreto Interministeriale 05/07/1992 # 400/R
Implementation of C.E.E. Directive # 88/593 dealing with the harmonization of legislation of Member States concerning jams, gelatins, marmalades and chestnut cream.

Fruit Juice and Syrup

- * D.P.R. 05/18/1982 # 489
Regulations implementing C.E.E. Directives # 75/726 and # 79/168 relative to fruit juices and similar products.
- * Regio Decreto Legge 10/15/1925 # 2033 - Art. 37,38 -
Regulations relative to fruit juices syrups and extracts.
- * Legge 02/23/1968 # 116
Regulations relative to almond syrup.

Honey

- * Legge 10/12/1982 # 753
Implementation of the CEE Directives on honey.

Oils

- * Regio Decreto Legge 10/15/1925 # 2033 - Art. 20,21,23
Regulations relative to olive oil and seeds oil.
- * Legge 11/13/1960 # 1407
Regulations on the classification and trade of olive oil.
- * Legge 02/05/1992 # 169
Regulations relative to the identification of controlled geographic name (DOC) for the production of extra-virgin olive oils.

* Legge 07/24/1962 # 1104
No certification requirement of any kind of oil for human use.

* Legge 01/27/1968 # 35
Regulations relating to the advertising and trade of olive and seeds oil.

Herbal Products

* Legge 01/06/1931 # 99
Regulations relative to the cultivation, harvest and trade of herbs.

* Legge 10/30/1940 # 1724
Regulations relative to the harvest and sale of camomile.

Eggs and Egg Products

* Legge 05/03/1971 # 419
Implementation of CEE Regulations # 1619/68 and 95/69 dealing with the trade of eggs.

* CEE Regulation # 1970/90
Trade rules related to eggs.

* D.Lvo 02/04/1993 # 65
Enforcement of CEE Directives # 89/437 regarding sanitation issues concerning the production and marketing of egg products.

Wine and Wine Products

* D.P.R. 02/12/1965 # 162 (and further amendments)
Regulations controlling fraud in the preparation and trade of must, wine and vinegar.

* Legge 08/02/1982 # 527
Regulations on production and trade of vinegars.

* CEE Regulation # 822/87 dated 03/16/1987 (and further amendments)
EC regulations dealing with the production and trade of wine in the EU countries.

* CEE Regulation # 2392/89 dated 07/24/1989
EU regulations related to the denomination of wine and grape must.

* CEE Regulation # 3309 dated 11/18/1985 (and further amendments)
Council Regulations related to the denomination of sparkling wine and sparkling wine with the addition of gas.

- * CEE Regulation # 823/87 dated 03/16/1987
Regulations on quality wine produced in specified controlled regions (DOC, DOCG).
- * Legge 02/10/1992 # 164
New legislation relative to the geographic denomination of wine (DOC, DOCG)
- * CEE Regulation # 1601/91 dated 06/10/1991
Council regulation setting forth general rules dealing with the definition, denomination of flavored wine, flavored wine based drinks and flavored wine coolers cocktails.
- * Legge 03/16/1956 # . 108 (and further amendments) -
Legislation governing the production and trade of vermouth and other flavored wines.
- * Decreto Ministeriale 06/19/1990 # . 305
New regulations on production/trade of wine- and/or must-based fancy drinks (wine coolers).

Sugar

- * Legge 03/31/1980 # 139
Implementation of EU Directives concerning the harmonization of the Member States' legislation relative to certain types of sugar for human consumption.

Salt

- * Decreto Ministeriale 08/10/95 # 562
Regulation covering the production and trade of iodate
- * Decreto Ministeriale 01/31/97 # 106
Regulation relating to the production and trade of kitchen-salt, iodate salt and iodate salt.

Frozen Products

- * Legge 01/27/1968 # 32
Regulation relative to the sale of frozen products.
- * D.Lvo 01/27/1992 # 110
Implementation of CEE Directives # 89/108 on frozen products for human consumption.
- * Decreto Ministeriale 04/27/1992 # 21
Regulation concerning the importation of frozen products.
- * Decreto Ministeriale 09/25/95 # 493
Methodology for temperature inspection of frozen products.

(End of Report)